



my's Docket No. HES 2000-IP-001848U1

**PATENT**

1712  
#8  
3/24/03  
ke

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent application

of \_\_\_\_\_  
inventor(s)

for \_\_\_\_\_  
title of invention

**OR**

**RECEIVED**  
FEB 25 2003  
TE 1799

In re application of: Ronald E. Sweatman et al.

Serial No.: 10 /082,459

Group Art Unit: 1712

Filed: February 25, 2002

Examiner: Phillip Tucker

For: Methods of Discovering And Correcting Subterranean Formation Integrity Problems During Drilling

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR  
BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 CFR 1.97(b))**

**NOTE:** "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed: (1) within three months of the filing date of a national application; (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; or (3) before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last." 37 CFR 1.97(b).

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

**MAILING**

**FACSIMILE**

☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

☐ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office.

Date: 2-11-03

Sheila Gibbs  
Signature

Sheila Gibbs  
(type or print name of person certifying)

(Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement Within Three Months of Filing or Before Mailing of First Office Action [8-3]—page 1 of 2)

NOTE: The "filing date of a national application" under 37 CFR 1.97(b) has two possible meanings. Where the filing is a direct one to the United States Patent & Trademark Office, the filing is defined in 37 CFR 1.53(b) as "the date on which: (1) A specification containing a description pursuant to § 1.71 and at least one claim pursuant to § 1.75; and (2) any drawing required by § 1.81(a), are filed in the Patent and Trademark Office in the name of the actual inventor or inventors as required by § 1.41." 37 CFR 1.97(b)(1). On the other hand, an international application that enters the national stage occurs when the applicant has filed the documents and fees required by 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) within the periods set forth in § 1.494 or § 1.495. 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) requires the filing of the following: (1) the national fee; (2) a copy of the international application, unless already sent by the International Bureau, and an English translation if filed in another language; (3) amendments under PCT Article 19, with a translation into English if made in another language; (4) an oath or declaration; and (5) a translation into English of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report, if such annexes were made in another language. 37 CFR 1.97(b)(2).

### IDENTIFICATION OF TIME OF FILING THE ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 CFR 1.97(b).

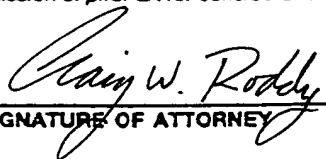
NOTE: "No certification or fee is due when the filing is made within the above time period. It is advisable to ensure that no Office action has been mailed if the disclosure statement is delayed until after three months from filing.

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement will be considered to have been filed on the day it was received in the Office, or on an earlier date of a mailing if accompanied by a properly executed certificate of mailing under 37 CFR 1.8, or Express Mail certificate under 37 CFR 1.10. An Office action is mailed on the date indicated in the Office action." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

NOTE: "The term 'national application' includes continuing applications (continuations, divisions, continuations-in-part) so three-months will be measured from the actual filing date of an application as opposed [sic] to the effective date of a continuing application." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

NOTE: "An action on the merits means an action which treats the patentability of the claims in an application, as opposed to only formal or procedural requirements. An action on the merits would, for example, contain a rejection or indication of allowability of a claim or claims rather than just a restriction requirements (37 CFR 1.142) or just a requirement for additional fees to have a claim considered (37 CFR 1.16(d)). Thus, if an application was filed on Jan. 1 and the first Office action on the merits was not mailed until six months later on July 1, the examiner would be required to consider any proper information disclosure statement filed prior to July 1." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 39).

WARNING: "A petition for suspension of action to allow applicant time to submit an information disclosure statement will be denied as failing to present good and sufficient reasons, since 37 CFR 1.97 provides adequate recourse for the timely submission of prior art for consideration by the examiner." Notice of July 6, 1992 (1141 O.G. 63).

  
SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY

P.O. Box 1431

P.O. Address

Reg. No.: 36,256

Tel. No.: ( 580 ) 251-3012

Duncan, OK 73536-0440

(Transmittal of Information Disclosure Statement Within Three Months of Filing or Before Mailing of First Office  
Action [8-3]—page 2 of 2)



PATENT  
HES 2000-IP-001848U1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Ronald E. Sweatman et al. )  
)  
) Art Unit: 1712  
)  
Serial No.: 10/082,459 )  
)  
Filed: February 25, 2002 ) Examiner: Phillip Tucker  
)  
For: METHODS OF DISCOVERING )  
AND CORRECTING SUBTERRAN- )  
EAN FORMATION INTEGRITY )  
PROBLEMS DURING DRILLING )

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FEB 25 2003  
TC 1700

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

The following documents are known to Applicants or Applicants' attorneys and are submitted for the Examiner to consider in the above-captioned application.

U. S. PATENTS

U.S. Patent Number 5,180,020 issued January 19, 1993 to Giin-Fa Fuh et al.

U.S. Patent Number 5,207,282 issued May 4, 1993 to Giin-Fa Fuh et al.

OTHER MATERIAL

SPE 24599 entitled "A New Approach to Preventing Lost Circulation While Drilling" by Giin-Fa Fuh et al., dated 1992.

SPE/IADC 37671 entitled "New Solutions to Remedy Lost Circulation, Crossflows, and Underground Blowouts" by Ronald Sweatman et al., dated 1997.

SPE 53312 entitled "Conformance-While-Drilling Technology Proposed to Optimize Drilling and Production" by Ron Sweatman et

al., dated 1999.

SPE 52188 entitled "Novel Approach to Borehole Stability Modeling for ERD and Deepwater Drilling" by U.A. Tare et al., dated 1999.

Paper entitled "Conformance-While-Drilling (CWD) Technology Proposed to Optimize Drilling and Production" by Ron Sweatman et al., dated 1999.

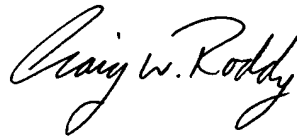
SPE 56598 entitled "High Propagation Pressures in Transverse Hydraulic Fractures: Cause, Effect, and Remediation" by W.F.J. Deeg, dated 1999.

PTC 11976 entitled "New Chemical Systems and Placement Methods to Stabilize and Seal Deepwater Shallow-Water Flow Zones" by Larry Eoff et al., dated 2000.

SPE 71368 entitled "Drilling Fluid Losses and Gains: Case Histories and Practical Solutions" by Uday A. Tare et al., dated 2001.

Copies of the aforementioned references and Form PTO-1449 are submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



Craig W. Roddy  
Registration No. 36,256  
Halliburton Energy Services  
P. O. Box 1431  
Duncan, OK 73536-0440  
580-251-3012  
**ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS**

Sheet 1 of 3

FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)  LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 2000-IP-001848U1	SERIAL NO. 10/082,459
	APPLICANT Ronald E. Sweatman et al.	
	FILING DATE February 25, 2002	GROUP 1712

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	AA	5,180,020	01/19/93	Fuh et al.	175	72	
	AB	5,207,282	05/04/93	Fuh et al.	175	72	
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

## OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

✓	AR		SPE 24599 entitled "A New Approach to Preventing Lost Circulation While Drilling" by Giin-Fa Fuh et al., dated 1992.
✓	AS		SPE/IADC 37671 entitled "New Solutions to Remedy Lost Circulation, Crossflows, and Underground Blowouts" by R.E. Sweatman et al., dated 1997.
✓	AT		SPE 53312 entitled "Conformance-While-Drilling Technology Proposed To Optimize Drilling and Production" by R. Sweatman et al., dated 1999.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 2 of 3

FORM PTO-1449 LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 2000-IP-001848U1	SERIAL NO. 10/082,459
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Sheet 3 of 3

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	AS	SPE 71368 entitled "Drilling Fluid Losses and Gains: Case Histories and
		Practical Solutions" by U. Tare et al., dated 2001.
	AT	

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